



# Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

## Burnett County

### County characteristics

- 822 sq. mi.
- Waters: 429 lakes and flowages totaling 31,518 acres; 54 named streams totaling 358 miles including 86 miles of trout streams. The St. Croix River Scenic Riverway defines the west boundary of Burnett County
- The northern 2/3 of the county is largely forested with mixed hardwood and conifer forests while the southern 1/3 is mixed cropland and woodlots.

### State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- Nearly 55,000 acres of state wildlife and fishery properties are open to hunting and public recreation. This includes Crex Meadows, the largest wildlife area in the state.
- Other public lands open to hunting and fishing include the 19,500 acre Gov. Knowles State Forest and the 106,429 acre Burnett County Forest.

Locate DNR properties at:

[http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr\\_lands\\_mapping.html](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html)

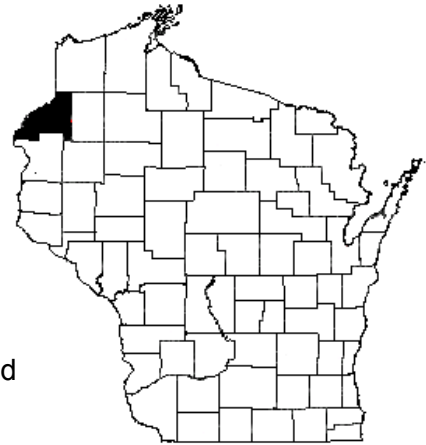
### Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you

- 1 Area Wildlife Supervisor, 1 Glacial Lake Grantsburg Supervisor, 3 Wildlife Technicians, 1 Wildlife Biologist, 2 Conservation Wardens, 2 Fisheries biologists and 2 Fisheries Technicians; 2 Customer Service Representatives

### Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Trout habitat projects on Clam River and Dogtown Creek.
- Comprehensive fish surveys on area lakes and streams completed annually.
- Long term monitoring established for county lakes, streams and St. Croix River
- Sturgeon assessment project on St. Croix River in 2005-2007.
- Manage state wildlife areas for wildlife habitat including forest habitat, waterfowl impoundments (8000 acres) and prairie/barrens (10,000 acres)
- Manage for Pine Barrens and sharp-tailed grouse on the 5,048 acre Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area leased from Burnett County.
- Restore wetlands and grasslands on private lands for waterfowl and pheasant habitat.
- Wardens developed a one-day annual event focusing on promoting outdoor recreation in the state of Wisconsin by providing a variety of seminars related to issues that any hunter or non-hunter may like to attend such as: Fall Hunting, Rapala Fishing, White Tailed Deer Mgt, Elk Hunting, Trapping, Cooking Wild Game, Land and Lake Conservation, Winter Bird Feeding, Boone & Crockett Scoring and Handicap Hunting.
- Wardens worked with Wildlife Management staff to provide Wild Game Registration Refresher seminar to Burnett County registration stations. The goal of the

*Activities continued...*



seminar is to make the stations work smoother and provide a higher standard of accuracy, consistency and information to the public on the behalf of the DNR.

- Wardens are currently working with the Burnett County Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited to design a billboard to raise awareness, provide information and encourage community program integration.
- Wardens also attend the Burnett County Conservation days; assist the Webster Sportsmen club with educating and recruiting youth into outdoor hunting activities and attend various Lake Assoc. meetings throughout the county.
- Wardens conduct various hunting, fishing and trapping investigations issuing over 200 civil and criminal citations for fish and game violations.
- Manage DNR lands for hunting, wildlife watching and other public recreational uses. Provide public use facilities including access sites and parking areas. Survey and post property boundaries.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of ducks, geese, pheasants, grouse, woodcock, deer, bear, frogs, grassland birds, eagles, osprey, trumpeter swans, sharp-tailed grouse.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups. The new Crex Education Center provides educational outreach to 120,000 annual visitors.
- Control exotic and invasive species such as purple loosestrife, leafy spurge, wild parsnip, spotted knapweed, thistle, goldenrod, box elder to assure quality native habitat.

## ***Burnett County Conservation Snapshots***

65 DNR Boat Launch Access  
41 ALIS Agents Supported  
7 Deer, Turkey & Bear Registration  
Stations



## ***Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary***

- 3,550 trout
- 1,700 muskellunge fingerlings
- 211,000 walleye fingerlings

## ***County Success Stories***

- Most of the county's lakes now have adequate access and boat launch facilities.
- Crex Meadows, Fish Lake, and Namekagon Barrens wildlife areas comprise the largest remaining block of pine barrens habitat in the state, providing habitat for sharp-tailed grouse, upland sandpiper and a wide variety of rare and endangered species.
- Wildlife staff provides input on county forest plans and helps develop wildlife projects on the Burnett County Forest.

## ***Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities***

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
  - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management

***Want to Learn More? Go to [dnr.wi.gov/invest](http://dnr.wi.gov/invest)***

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